

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method of recovering from a corrupt computer system BIOS comprising the steps of:

upon startup, determining whether a BIOS of a computer system is corrupt;

continuing with a normal boot if said BIOS is not corrupt;

if said BIOS is corrupt:

initializing components in a boot block of said computer system sufficient to establish a communications connection with a recovery server;

locating said recovery server;

connecting to said recovery server and sending system information to said recovery server;

downloading an uncorrupted version of said BIOS from said recovery server based on said system information;

programming said uncorrupted BIOS onto said computer system's BIOS storage area; and

rebooting said computer system.

2. (original) A method as in claim 1, wherein one of said components is a network card.

3. (original) A method as in claim 2, wherein said computer system connects to said recovery server over a local area network.

4. (original) A method as in claim 2, wherein said computer system connects to said recovery server over a wide area network.

5. (original) A method as in claim 2, wherein said computer system connects to said recovery server over the internet.

6. (original) A method as in claim 1, wherein one of said components is a modem.

7. (original) A method as in claim 6, wherein said computer system connects to said recovery server over a direct dial connection.

8. (original) A method as in claim 6, wherein said computer system connects to said recovery server through an internet service provider.

9. (original) A method as in claim 6, wherein said computer system connects to said recovery server over the internet.

10. (previously presented) A method of recovering from a corrupt computer system BIOS comprising the steps of:

receiving at a server a request for an uncorrupted version of a BIOS transmitted by a computer system with a corrupted version of said BIOS detected during startup;

receiving system information from said computer system; and

responsive to said system information, transmitting an uncorrupted version of said BIOS to said computer system.

11. (original) A method as in claim 10, wherein said server and said computer system are connected over a local area network.

12. (original) A method as in claim 10, wherein said server and said computer system are connected over a wide area network.

13. (original) A method as in claim 10, wherein said server and said computer system are connected over the internet.

14. (original) A method as in claim 10, wherein said server and said computer system are connected through said computer system's modem.

15. (currently amended) A method for recovering from a corrupt BIOS comprising the steps of:

upon startup of a computer system, checking whether a BIOS of said computer system is corrupt;

continuing with a normal boot if said BIOS is not corrupt;

if said BIOS is corrupt:

initializing components in a boot block of said computer system sufficient to establish a communications connection with a recovery server;

locating a recovery server;

connecting to said recovery server and sending system information to said recovery server;

transmitting, based on said system information, an uncorrupted version of said BIOS and an utility software from said recovery server to said computer system;

receiving said uncorrupted version of said BIOS and said utility software at said computer system;

executing said utility software to program said uncorrupted version of said BIOS onto a BIOS storage area of said computer system; and

rebooting said computer system.

16. (original) A method as in claim 15, wherein one of said components is a network card.

17. (original) A method as in claim 16, wherein said server and said computer system are connected over a local area network.

18. (original) A method as in claim 16, wherein said server and said computer system are connected over a wide area network.

19. (original) A method as in claim 16, wherein said server and said computer system are connected over the internet.

20. (original) A method as in claim 15, wherein one of said components is a modem.

21. (original) A method as in claim 20, wherein said server and said computer system are connected over a direct dial connection.

22. (original) A method as in claim 20, wherein said server and said computer system are connected over an internet service provider.

23. (original) A method as in claim 20, wherein said server and said computer system are connected over the internet.

24. (currently amended) A system for recovering from a corrupted computer system BIOS comprising:

a computer system, said computer system comprising:

a processor;

a BIOS recovery program;

a BIOS storage area containing said BIOS;

a RAM;

a first communications system; and

a chipset to control the flow of data between the processor, a motherboard bus and the RAM; and

a recovery server, said recovery server comprising:

a processor;

a storage medium;

and a second communications system;

wherein said processor of said computer system, in response to detecting a corrupt version of said BIOS detected during startup, said processor adapted to execute [[executes]] said BIOS recovery program to:

initialize in a boot block of said computer system, said chipset, RAM, and first communications system;

locate said recovery server;

connect to said recovery server through said first and second communications systems;

send system information to said recovery server;

download from said recovery server an uncorrupted version of said BIOS based on said system information;

store said uncorrupted version of said BIOS into said BIOS storage area; and

reboot said computer system.

25. (original) A system as in claim 24, wherein said first and second communications system are network cards.

26. (currently amended) A system as in claim 25, wherein said computer system and said recovery server are adapted to be connected over a local area network.

27. (currently amended) A system as in claim 25, wherein said computer system and said recovery server are adapted to be connected over a wide area network.

28. (currently amended) A system as in claim 25, wherein said computer system and said recovery server are adapted to be connected over the internet.

29. (original) A system as in claim 24, wherein said first and second communications systems are modems.

30. (currently amended) A system as in claim 29, wherein said computer system and said recovery server are adapted to be connected though an internet service provider.

31. (currently amended) A system as in claim 29, wherein said computer system and said recovery server are adapted to be connected over the internet.

32. (currently amended) A system for recovering from a corrupted computer system BIOS comprising:

a computer system, said computer system comprising:

a processor,

a bus;

a BIOS recovery program,

a BIOS storage area containing said BIOS,

a RAM, and

a first communications system and a chipset to control the flow of data between the processor, the bus and the RAM;

wherein said computer system's processor, in response to detecting a corrupt version of said BIOS during startup, said processor adapted to execute ~~[[executes]]~~ said BIOS recovery program to:

initialize in a boot block of said a chipset of said computer system, said RAM, and said first communications system;

locate a recovery server;

connect to said recovery server through said first communications system;

send system information to said recovery server;

download from said recovery server an uncorrupted version of said BIOS based on said system information;

store said uncorrupted BIOS into said BIOS storage area; and

reboot said computer system.

33. (original) A system as in claim 32, wherein said first communications system is a network card.

34. (currently amended) A system as in claim 33, wherein said computer system and said recovery server are adapted to be connected over a local area network.

35. (currently amended) A system as in claim 33, wherein said computer system and said recovery server are adapted to be connected over a wide area network.

36. (currently amended) A system as in claim 33, wherein said computer system and said recovery server are adapted to be connected over the internet.

37. (original) A system as in claim 32, wherein said first communications system is a modem.

38. (currently amended) A system as in claim 37, wherein said computer system and said recovery server are adapted to be connected over an internet service provider.

39. (currently amended) A system as in claim 37, wherein said computer system and said recovery server are adapted to be connected over the internet.

40. (currently amended) A system for recovering from a corrupted computer system BIOS comprising:

a recovery server, said recovery server comprising:

a processor;

a hard drive containing an uncorrupted version of a BIOS in a boot block for a computer system; and

a first communications system;

wherein said recovery server, in response to receiving a request transmitted by said computer system with a corrupted version of said BIOS detected during startup, is configured to

[[connects]] connect to said computer system,

[[receives]] receive system information from said computer system, and

[[transmits]] transmit said uncorrupted version of said BIOS to said computer system.

41. (original) A system as in claim 40, wherein said first communications system is a network card.

42. (currently amended) A system as in claim 41, wherein said recovery server and said computer system are adapted to be connected over a local area network.

43. (currently amended) A system as in claim 41, wherein said recovery server and said computer system are adapted to be connected over a wide area network.

44. (currently amended) A system as in claim 41, wherein said recovery server and said computer system are adapted to be connected over the internet.

45. (original) A system as in claim 40, wherein said first communications system is a modem.

46. (currently amended) A system as in claim 45, wherein said recovery server and said computer system are adapted to be connected through an internet service provider.

47. (currently amended) A system as in claim 45, wherein said recovery server and said computer system are adapted to be connected over the internet.

48. (currently amended) A system for recovering from a corrupted computer system BIOS comprising:

a computer system, said computer system comprising a BIOS and components sufficient in a boot block to enable recovery of an uncorrupted BIOS from a remote server;

wherein said computer system, in response to detecting a corrupt version of said BIOS during startup, ~~[[operates]]~~ configured to operate said components to:

connect to a remote server,

send system information to said remote server;

receive, based on said system information, an uncorrupted version of said BIOS from said remote server,

store said uncorrupted version of said BIOS, and

reboot said computer system.

49. (new) A method as in claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

if said recovery server is not located;

connecting to a conventional recovery source;

downloading an uncorrupted version of said BIOS from said conventional recovery source;

programming said uncorrupted BIOS onto said computer system's BIOS storage area; and

rebooting said computer system.

50. (new) A method as in claim 49, wherein said conventional recovery source is a removable disk.

51. (new) A method as in claim 15, further comprising the steps of:

if said recovery server is not located;

connecting to a conventional recovery source;

downloading an uncorrupted version of said BIOS from said conventional recovery source;

programming said uncorrupted BIOS onto said computer system's BIOS storage area; and

rebooting said computer system.

52. (new) A method as in claim 51, wherein said conventional recovery source is a removable disk.